1 2 3 4 5 6 BEFORE THE PUBLIC DISCLOSURE COMMISSION 7 OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON 8 IN THE MATTER OF ENFORCEMENT **ACTION AGAINST** PDC CASE NO.: 01-219 9 Amalgamated Transit Union Local 587 and) STIPULATION OF FACTS. 10 Amalgamated Transit Union Local 587 VIOLATIONS AND PENALTY No on I-745 Committee 11 Respondents. 12 13 Amalgamated Transit Union Local 587 (Respondent) and Public Disclosure 14 Commission Compliance Staff (Staff) jointly submit this Stipulation of Facts, Violations 15 and Penalty for Commission consideration in lieu of a full enforcement hearing before the 16 Commission. The parties agree that pursuant to RCW 42.17.360 et. seq., the Commission 17 has the authority to accept, decline, or to suggest modifications to this Stipulation. 18 **Facts** 19 20 Both parties agree that the Notice of Administrative Charges, dated July 11, 2001, 21 contains accurate statements of fact, with the following modifications: 22 (1) The separate bank account repeatedly referred to in the Notice 23 of Administrative Charges should be called "ATU Local 587 24 No on I-745 **Account**." (Not Committee.) 25 26 STIPULATION OF FACTS, VIOLATIONS AND PENALTY - 1

- (2) The first full sentence under Facts on page 4 should read: "On July 13, 2000, a letter was sent by facsimile from the ATU Legislative Council for distribution to members of ATU Local 587."
- (3) The third sentence in the second full paragraph on page 5 should read: "Over 300 union members signed a waiver form provided by the Union and did not pay the special assessment.

 The Union honored the waiver forms throughout the process, including after the initial assessment was withheld."
- (4) The fourth sentence in the third full paragraph on page 5 should read: "The \$110,000 in general fund monies transferred from ATU Local 587 to the ATU Local 587 No on I-745 account should have been reported as loans at the time the transfers were made."

The Notice of Administrative Charges, along with the Report of Investigation and all exhibits, are incorporated herein by this reference. The Parties stipulate and understand that the Commission has the authority to review, and has been provided with, the Notice of Administrative Charges dated July 11, 2001, the Report of Investigation dated July 11, 2001, and all exhibits in determining whether to accept this Stipulation.

Staff acknowledges that the Respondent has at all times cooperated in good faith with the investigation and agreed resolution of this matter. Staff also acknowledges that the investigation found no evidence of intentional violations.

Violations

Respondent and Staff agree that based upon the facts stipulated above, the Commission would likely find multiple unintentional violations of RCW 42.17.040 – RCW 42.17.090. Said violations are based upon ATU Local 587 soliciting and accepting contributions from its members with the expectation of making expenditures opposing a ballot measure without registering and reporting as a political committee.

Penalty

Respondent and Staff agree that based upon the stipulation to facts and violations of RCW 42.17 above, the Respondent is willing to accept an assessed total civil penalty of \$10,000.00, \$7,500.00 of which is suspended on the following conditions:

- (1) That for a period of four years from the date of entry of the Commission's Final Order in this matter, there are no further violations of any provision of RCW 42.17, or WAC Chapter 390.
- (2) Within six (6) months from the entry of the Commission's Final Order in this matter, or before the next special assessment of its membership, whichever occurs first, the Union, in collaboration with PDC Staff, will develop a protocol for communicating with the Employer (King County) regarding future special assessments. The protocol will be designed to prevent future violations by informing the Employer when an assessment is reasonably expected to be for a contribution to any political committee, a contribution to a candidate for state or local office, or for a contribution or expenditure in support of or in opposition to any candidate or ballot

proposition. Upon completion of the protocol, the Union will send a copy of the protocol to PDC Staff.

- (3) Within six (6) months from the entry of the Commission's Final Order in this matter, or before the next special assessment of its membership, whichever occurs first, the Union will design and conduct training for all Union officers and staff engaged in implementing special assessments on the provisions of RCW 42.17, particularly RCW 42.17.040 RCW 42.17.090. The Union will collaborate with PDC Staff regarding the substance of the training and, following the training, certify to Staff the date(s) of the training and the titles of those in attendance. The training materials will be communicated to all other ATU locals in Washington. The materials will also be shared with each Central Labor Council in Washington, for distribution to other interested organizations.
- (4) Within three (3) months from the entry of the Commission's Final Order in this matter, the Union will send a letter to each person who had funds in any amount withheld in the special assessment, and who has not requested and received a rebate. The letter will be sent to the last known address for each person, will explain this Stipulation, and will provide an opportunity and a mechanism for obtaining a rebate. This rebate could be a full reimbursement of funds withheld, or could be a reduction in future Union withholding at the same rate initially withheld. The waiver / rebate form must include the non-discrimination language found in WAC 390-17-100(2)(g). Each letter recipient will have a minimum of three (3) weeks from the initial date of